

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks. Claims 19-27 and 33-37 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1-18 and 28-32 remain pending in the application.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 19-26, 33, and 35-36 under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is allegedly directed to non-statutory subject matter. That rejection is now moot because those claims have been cancelled.

The Examiner also rejected claims 1-37 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,345,278 to Hitchcock et al. ("Hitchcock"). Anticipation of a claim requires that each and every element of that claim be disclosed by a single reference. Applicants respectfully traverse the anticipation rejection of claim 1 because Hitchcock does not disclose the step of "displaying the markup language form element on the Web page" after the step of "associating the markup language form element with the object."

Addressing the first step recited in claim 1 on page 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner states:

"associating the markup language form element (Fig. 2 element 52 and Fig. 3 element 38) with the object (Fig. 2 element 52 "Create your account" & Fig. 3 element 38 "Apply: Lewis & Clark college") (column 4 lines 23-47)..."

Because the Examiner cites both elements 52 and 38 when referring to either the markup language form element or the object, it is unclear which element in the figures corresponds to which element in the claim. The Examiner also cites col.4:23-47 but does not indicate which elements in the text correspond to which claimed elements.

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Indeed, that text does not even address element 52 in Fig. 2. It mostly discusses element 36 in Fig. 3. Because the text was cited only in reference to the term "object" as recited in the claim, and not to the the term "form element," the Applicant assumes for purposes of the present discussion that the Examiner intended to assert that the link 38 in Hitchcock amounts to the claimed "form element" and that the entry page 36 in Fig. 2 amounts to the claimed "object." That assumption should not imply that the Applicant agrees with the Examiner's apparent assertions; it is only an interpretation of what the Examiner apparently asserted. Further clarification from the Examiner is still respectfully requested.

The Examiner stated that by "clicking on the [form] element [38] to access the object [36]," the form element is associated with the object. Thus after the alleged "associating" step is executed (clicking link 38), the entry page 36 is displayed. Nothing in the specification suggests that entry page 36 displays the alleged form element (link 38) after that very same link has been clicked on. Consequently, Hitchcock fails to disclose the step of "displaying the markup language form element on the Web page" after the step of associating the object with the form element. Therefore, Hitchcock fails to disclose each and every element of claim 1. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 should be allowed. Further, claims 2-10 should be allowed at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 1.

Claims 11 and 28 should be allowed by reasons similar to those set forth above in support of the allowability of claim 1. Futher, claims 12-18 should be allowed at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 11. Still further, claims 29-32 should be allowed at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 28.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant earnestly solicits the expedited allowance of the pending claims. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee(s) necessary to enter this paper and any previous paper, or credit any overpayment of fees to deposit account 09-0468.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

Rafael A. Perez-Pineiro
Reg. No. 46,041
Phone No. (914) 945-2631

IBM Corporation
Intellectual Property Law Dept.
P. O. Box 218
Yorktown Heights, New York 10598